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The United States in Our Own Times, 1865-1920. By PAUL L. HAWORTH, Ph.D. (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons. 1920. Pp. viii, 563. \$2.25.)

THE first characteristic of the book that impresses the reader is the number of quotation-marks; the second, that a great number of these quotations add nothing to its style or interest, and that the author could have said the same thing just as forcibly, perhaps even more so, in his own words. Phrases such as “‘only hits that count’” (p. 241), “‘lazy and sassy’” (p. 8), “‘made to be broken’” (p. 101), and longer quotations of a similar nature, too numerous to mention, add little to the narrative.

A certain indefiniteness also characterizes the work. The statement, “By revelations concerning the ‘Sanborn Contracts’, Secretary of Treasury Richardson was so badly discredited he resigned” (p. 77) is not illuminating to the student who has never heard of the Sanborn Contracts. Grant’s connection with Black Friday is also unsatisfactorily presented (p. 64). The apparent attempt of the author to guard against over-emphasizing a subject concerning which he is a specialist has led to a poorly balanced presentation of the disputed election of 1876, especially in the portion dealing with the manner of counting the votes in Louisiana, Florida, and South Carolina.

The author claims to have devoted a large share of space to social and industrial problems. His arrangement of material, however, is such as seriously to eclipse the important developments connected with any specific movement. We find no satisfactory connected accounts of the evolution of agrarianism, labor, social legislation, constitutional law, imperialism, and other such matters as should properly be the concern of the student of this period of our history. Though no one doubts that the proportions of a book are largely a matter of opinion, the reviewer cannot refrain from pointing out that a book which devotes nine pages to a description of Indian battles and buffaloes (pp. 103-112) and but five lines to the Dawes Act, is hardly well balanced; that a book which has space to devote to poetic ornamentation and omits some of the most important development of our constitutional law is hardly well rounded. Not only has the author failed to show the interaction between the social and industrial problems of the country and the evolution of our law, but also he has failed to indicate the relation of these problems to our political life. Because of this he lacks a sympathetic understanding of the thinking of those who from time to time have joined the forces of dissent.

In his treatment of the two most conspicuous contemporary American statesmen, Roosevelt and Wilson, the author leaves no doubt in the minds of his readers that the former was by far the greater. It is hardly necessary to point out that a text-book is no place in which to give way to partizan zeal, or to suggest that sufficient time has not as

yet elapsed to permit sufficient perspective for a true historical judgment of either.

Two attributes, however, of this work stand out so strikingly as to make its reading well worth the while of the student of recent American history. In the first place the "Suggestions for Further Readings", giving as they do page references to selected portions of various works, are excellent; secondly, and more important, Mr. Haworth has produced a work which is so readable as to justify the claim of the publishers that it is as "fascinating as a story".

B. B. KENDRICK.

The Canadian Dominion: a Chronicle of our Northern Neighbor.

By OSCAR D. SKELTON. [Chronicles of America series, vol. XLIX.] (New Haven: Yale University Press; London: Humphrey Milford. 1919. Pp. xi, 296.)

CANADA has reason to congratulate herself on the appearance of this excellent little volume in the *Chronicles of America* series. She has not only been accorded a distinctive place in the development of the new world, but has also been fortunate in finding a sympathetic interpreter of her evolution from a colonial to a national status.

Professor Skelton has been most skillful in combining the dual rôles of historian and political scientist. On the historical side he has little to present that is new or striking, but he does succeed in breathing the breath of life into the dry bones of the past and giving them vitality. To the gift of historical imagination, he has added the quality of insight. He is perhaps more interested in the significance of events than in the events themselves. The reader will not soon forget his keen analysis of the political tendencies of his country, nor his critical judgments of the statesmen of the time.

The author's point of view is that of a staunch nationalist. He is proud of the part that his country has played in resisting Tory imperialism on the one hand and American intervention on the other, but there is, fortunately, an entire absence of national self-complacency or chauvinism throughout the study. In his treatment of domestic affairs, he maintains a strict judicial impartiality, although he occasionally reveals his liberal fiscal sympathies in his discussion of recent tariff policies. On imperial matters, he looks forward to the day when Canada shall attain to full nationality, not as an independent state, but as an equal and full-fledged member of the Britannic Union and of the League of Nations.

His treatment of Anglo-American relations will doubtless prove of particular interest to American readers. Although somewhat critical at times of the occasional high-handed attitude of American diplomats towards a weaker neighbor, he does not fail to do full justice to the general policy and particular contentions of the United States. His